

WRITING APPARATUS HAVING A SHOW WINDOW

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a writing apparatus and more particularly, to such a writing apparatus, which has a show window for holding a show item, for example, a picture, photo, advertising sheet member, or the like.

2. Description of the Related Art

Conventionally, a writing apparatus, for example, a ballpoint pen or fountain pen, is limited to the purpose of writing only. Changes in shape, color, design, material, or structure may be made to attract consumers to buy. Lately, writing apparatus with added functions, such as light pen, calculator pen, pen drive, pen watch, pen with banknote acceptor, etc. are developed.

Further, because a writing apparatus is an inexpensive item that is requisite to most of the people, many companies use writing apparatus with an advertising printing as a gift to their clients. The advertising printing may be directly printed on the writing apparatus, or printed on a sheet member and then adhered to the writing apparatus. However, because the user's fingers may directly touch the advertising printing during writing, the advertising printing tends to be stained or forced away from the writing apparatus. Further, the advertising printing is not changeable when made.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention has been accomplished under the

circumstances in view.

It is one object of the present invention to provide a writing apparatus, which has a show window for holding and protecting a show item, for example, a picture, photo, advertising sheet member, or the like.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a show window for a writing apparatus, which is re-openable for replacing the show item.

According to one aspect of the present invention, the writing apparatus comprises a pen body, which has a receiving portion in the periphery thereof adapted to accommodate a show item, and a transparent socket detachably capped on the pen body and forming with the receiving portion a show window to protect the show item in the receiving portion.

According to another aspect of the present invention, the pen body comprises a springy retaining stub rod protruded from a spring strip thereof adapted to lock the transparent socket, and the transparent socket comprises a retaining hole adapted to receive the springy retaining stub rod.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an elevational view of a writing apparatus according to the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is an exploded view of the writing apparatus according to the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a longitudinal view in section of the lower part of the

writing apparatus according to the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view taken along line A-A of FIG. 3.

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view taken along line B-B of FIG. 3.

5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to FIGS. 1~3, a writing apparatus **10** is shown comprising a pen body **1** and a transparent socket **3**. According to this embodiment, the writing apparatus **10** is a pushbutton ballpoint pen with a clip. The pen body **1** comprises a barrel **11**, an ink cartridge **13**
10 mounted in the barrel **11**, and a compression spring **14** supporting the ink cartridge **13** inside the barrel **11**. The barrel **11** has a flange **19** extended around the periphery on the middle, and a receiving portion **12** in the periphery adapted to accommodate a thin sheet member **5**. According to this embodiment, the receiving portion **12** is a recess
15 formed in the periphery of the barrel **11** below the flange **19**. The recessed receiving portion **12** may be formed in the upper part of the barrel **11** of the pen body **1** or any suitable location at the periphery of the barrel **11** if the writing apparatus **10** is not made in the form of a ballpoint pen. The thin sheet member **5** can be a picture, photo, or
20 advertising printing matter that fits the recessed receiving portion **12**.

The transparent socket **3** is capped on the front part of the barrel **11** of the pen body **1** and stopped below the flange **19** to support the compression spring **13** and the ink cartridge **14**. After installation of the transparent socket **3** in the pen body **1**, the transparent socket **3** and the
25 recessed receiving portion **12** form a show window through which the

thin sheet member 5 (show item) is seen.

Referring to FIG. 4 and FIGS. 2 and 3 again, the barrel 11 has a U-slot 15 invertedly disposed above the recessed receiving portion 12, defining an upwardly extended spring strip 16. The spring strip 16 has a protruded retaining stub rod 17 outwardly projected from the free end (top end). The transparent socket 3 has a retaining hole 31 corresponding to the retaining stub rod 17. When capping the transparent socket 3 on the barrel 11, the retaining hole 31 of the transparent socket 3 is forced into engagement with the retaining stub rod 17, and therefore the transparent socket 3 is locked to the barrel 11. Inserting a thin rod member or pointed tip member into the retaining hole 31 to push the retaining stub rod 17 inwardly away from the retaining hole 31, the transparent socket 3 is unlocked and can be removed from the barrel 11.

Referring to FIG. 5 and FIGS. 2 and 3 again, in order to guide the transparent socket 3 into the locking position, a guide structure is provided, i.e., a guide rod 18 is provided at the periphery of the barrel 11 near the bottom end right below the spring strip 16 and a sliding groove 32 is formed in the inside wall of the transparent socket 3 and vertically downwardly extended from the top end of the transparent socket 3. By means of engaging the guide rod 18 into the sliding groove 32, the transparent socket 3 can quickly be capped on the barrel 11 and set into the locking position where the retaining stub rod 17 engages the retaining hole 31. Upon setting of the transparent socket 3 into the locking position, the transparent socket 3 is stopped against the flange

19, and the retaining stub rod 17 is forced into the retaining hole 31, producing a click sound.

A prototype of writing apparatus having a show window has been constructed with the features of FIGS. 1~5. The writing apparatus
5 having a show window functions smoothly to provide all of the features discussed earlier.

Although a particular embodiment of the invention has been described in detail for purposes of illustration, various modifications and enhancements may be made without departing from the spirit and scope
10 of the invention.